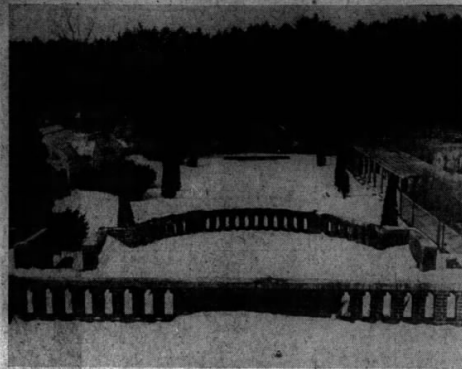


HYDE HEIRS GIVE ELMHURST TO PINE TREE SOCIETY



The sunken garden in the rear of the Hyde mansion with greenhouses at left included in the gift of the Hyde heirs to the Pine Tree Society for Crippled Children.

(Continued from Page One)

Fulfill a Dream
Mrs. Marie Preston, executive director of the Society, in accepting the offer for the society said that this gift was the fulfillment of a dream of over 10 years standing. "The Society," she said, "has long felt the need for a home for convalescent children, realizing that these children need specialized care during the period after leaving the hospital and before such time as they have recovered sufficiently to lead a normal life among well children at home and in school."

"I cannot express the deep sense of appreciation in the hearts and minds of all members of the Society," she continued, "for this generous gift by the Hyde heirs as a memorial to their family. Words are useless at this time. Acquiring of the home will give us the opportunity which we have so long desired to further our work for the handicapped children of the State and we will work and strive to live up to the new responsibilities placed upon us by the acceptance of this gift."

Meally Sailed
Elmhurst is particularly adapt-

able for the purpose for which the gift is intended. Situated on spacious grounds, of brick construction, fireproof throughout, it has numerous sun porches and a solarium which will be ideal for sun treatments of the boys and girls; the building is equipped with an elevator and contains in the neighborhood of 17 rooms with ample opportunity to convert them into more rooms of smaller size.

A completely equipped greenhouse is isolated with opportunities for flower and vegetable gardens where the children who are able will have a chance to learn horticulture and work in the fresh air at light tasks which should prove of interest to them. The grounds are beautiful, well shaded, and there is ample room for all kinds of activities which may become a part of the Society's rehabilitation program.

The headquarters of the Society which are now located on Cumberland street in Brunswick will be moved here shortly it was announced Saturday. Details of the staff and work which will be carried on here are necessarily not complete at this time due to the suddenness of the offer and the many other details concerned with the offer which had to be cleared up first.

Meeting Saturday
The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society was called for Saturday on authorization of Julius S. Bixler, president of Colby College and president of the Pine Tree Society. Mr. Bixler is now in California but was contacted by telephone.

In hearing of the offer Mr. Bixler, after expressing his pleasure and appreciation of the offer stated that "This generous offer of the

Hyde sisters will gladden the hearts of all those interested in helping Maine's crippled children."

Elmhurst
Work on the construction of Elmhurst was started in 1918 and completed in 1914. The architects were John Calvin Stevens a Fellow of the Institute of Architects, and John Howard Stevens, associated with him. The estimated cost of the project including grading of the land, building of Elmhurst, the barn, farm home and a mile of iron fence about the property was \$500,000.

The mansion is of brick, fireproof throughout and contains 17 rooms in addition to a large ball room on the third floor, a swimming pool in the basement, large sun porches, a solarium, a large library and a lobby.

Grounds included in the offer by the Hyde heirs are some several acres in extent. The home has been the scene of many lavish and delightful social events. One of the most outstanding being a reception in February of 1915 when nearly 800 citizens of the city attended. Madame Emma Baines de Gogora, Bath's noted opera singer and her talented husband, Emilio de Gogora entertained with musical selection and at this time there was dancing in the huge ball room. Refreshments were served in the dining room with a corps of trained waiters from Boston in attendance.

To enumerate the parties and gatherings which followed would be impossible, there have been so many of them as Elmhurst for many years was the social center of the city and the scene of scores of happy events.

John Sedgwick Hyde
John Sedgwick Hyde, builder of Elmhurst, was born in Bath, March 25, 1887, a son of Thomas Worcester and Ann Hayden.

He was educated in the public schools of Bath and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, from which he graduated in 1908, when he returned to Bath and went into the employ of the Bath Iron Works.

In 1909 he acquired ownership of the plant which originally had been organized by his father, Thomas W. Hyde, and became president and directed the affairs of the company until his death in March of 1917.

As a citizen, John S. Hyde was loyal to every interest of Bath. He was willing with large sums of money and personal influence to help anything that promised good for his native city. Bowdoin College in its General Thompson Worcester-Hyde athletic building is a large beneficiary from John S. Hyde's generosity, a memorial to his father.

To provide work when labor was in need in this city was a large factor in his understanding the extension of the Elmhurst estate into "the Five-Mile Swamp," reclaiming the wild land and converting the forest into a great park and constructing his magnificent new home there on a ledge which was long known as Sunset rock.

In the amazing brilliance of his career and its wonderful success, the beauty of the man's character was revealed in the simplicity of his life and treatment of citizens among whom he had grown and achieved and his death was mourned city-wide by friends in every walk of life.

This action of the granddaughters of this beloved citizen in making Elmhurst available for the crippled children of Maine is in keeping with the generous and humanitarian spirit which he displayed all through his life.

The Pine Tree Society for Crippled Children was incorporated in 1938 as a statewide organization of Maine citizens who, recognizing the needs of the handicapped, undertook the work of helping crippled children in Maine life and play like other children.

At first its services were limited to providing special teachers for crippled children who were unable to attend school and to transporting them to hospitals and clinics. Funds were

also used to buy wheel chairs, braces, crutches and other necessary orthopedic equipment.

Growing and expanding to meet demonstrated needs, the Pine Tree Society reached out to develop a statewide program designed to carry crippled children along to the ultimate goal of a normal life. Now the Pine Tree Society not only hopes to give every crippled child a chance to be well and strong, but it also works to prepare him to earn a living and with the acquisition of the facilities of the Hyde Memorial Home for Crippled Children the chances of accomplishing these worthwhile objectives are increased greatly.

Along with the new home the Society will continue to operate the Summer camp at North pond, Maine, for crippled children, the first camp of its kind in the State. This camp was opened in June, 1945, with an enrollment of 75 children. All program and activities were under the direct supervision of the Medical Advisory committee. These little campers showed such remarkable physical improvement that the Society, to insure permanency of the program, bought the camp site.

In May, 1946, the Pine Tree Society established a program designed to stimulate community consciousness of the importance of finding and aiding children suffering from cerebral palsy (spasticity). The Society secured the services of an occupational therapist and the Society brought 25 spastic children to camp for special training and treatment. The medical reports evaluating the physical gains made by these children warranted the continuance of the program.

Recognizing the responsibility to help the handicapped to help themselves, the Society is planning to coordinate services for rehabilitation by opening a comprehensive unit for physical and occupational therapy and this will be carried on at the Memorial home. The Society recognizes that the severely disabled should be given a chance to become wholly or partially self-supporting in their own homes. To this end the Society's occupational therapist is bringing new interest and hope to the lives of Maine's homebound by teaching them to make makeshift articles.

The Pine Tree Society for Crippled Children does not duplicate the services of any public or private agency. The services now supplied and which are greatly augmented with the acquisition of its new home and the operation of the planned facilities there consists of making it possible for parents to take their crippled children to hospitals and clinics for examination and treatment; provide special education for borderline cases who do not meet the requirements of the Division for Education of Physically Handicapped Children; purchasing appliances, wheelchairs, artificial limbs and special shoes, and assisting the child, the family and the public to a better understanding of the individual problems of the handicapped and to a more sympathetic interest in their needs.

MAINE LIFE INSURANCE

Maine families received \$6,089,000 in life insurance death benefit payments during 1946, compared with \$5,723,000 in the previous year and \$5,951,000 in 1944, the Institute of Life Insurance reported today.

"The death benefit payments in this state last year were made under 6,198 policies, compared with 6,783 policies in the previous year and 6,620 policies in 1944," the Institute reported. Of the aggregate 1946 payments in the state, \$5,103,000 was under 1,147 ordinary policies; \$445,000 was under 475 group life insurance policies; and \$942,000 was under 3,576 industrial insurance policies.

Accident Damage

In a study made in Vermont, it was found that the average damage by an automobile involved in an accident was \$53.36 when it was traveling 10 miles an hour or less. When the car was traveling over 50 miles

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